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Security Council

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Letter dated 12 August 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached addendum (see annex) to the supplementary report from Belarus submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (S/2002/693).

I should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

Letter dated 18 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

On instructions from my Government, I should like to transmit to you herewith information with regard to paragraph 4 of resolution 1373 (2001) and an organizational chart of our Government's administrative machinery to implement the resolution, prepared in response to the letter of 22 March 2002 (see enclosure).

I should be grateful if you would have the enclosed report circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergei S. **Ling**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus
to the United Nations

Enclosure

[Original: Russian]

Responses to questions from the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee concerning paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and national administrative machinery for combating terrorism

Paragraph 4

The Republic of Belarus has repeatedly voiced its concerns in respect of the problems enumerated in paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) in various forums under the auspices of international organizations — the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) — including:

- Under the auspices of the United Nations and OSCE, the International Conference on Enhancing Security and Stability in Central Asia: "Strengthening Comprehensive Efforts to Counter Terrorism" (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 13-14 December 2001);
- CIS Law Enforcement Coordination Council (Minsk, Belarus, 29 January 2002);
- Eleventh session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, Austria, 16-25 April 2002).

Belarus is progressively undertaking measures at the national, regional and international levels to combat illicit drug-trafficking, organized crime and other criminal activities enumerated in paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

In the Republic of Belarus, a State Programme of Comprehensive Measures to Combat the Abuse of and Illicit Trafficking in Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances for the period 2001-2005 and a State Programme to Strengthen Efforts to Combat Crime for the period 2001-2003 have been adopted and are currently in effect. The Act "On measures to prevent the legalization of funds obtained by illegal means" was adopted on 19 July 2000. This Act concerns, inter alia, financial operations subject to special oversight and the international transfer of funds from areas where the relevant State agencies have reported illicit production of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances. On 22 May 2002, the Act "On narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors" was adopted in the Republic of Belarus.

The Republic of Belarus has concluded — and is in the process of implementing at the intergovernmental and interdepartmental levels — international treaties on combating organized crime and illicit drug-trafficking with other CIS States and certain European States. The Republic of Belarus is a party to all the main multilateral international treaties on combating crime that have been adopted under the auspices of the United Nations and other international organizations.

The Republic of Belarus participates actively in the work of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, of which it is currently a member.

Belarus is actively implementing counter-terrorism measures in accordance with international treaties and cooperation programmes adopted within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The rising criminality in member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States and related crises in economic, social and other spheres of public life, the increase in crime and the growth in activities of organized criminal groups with strong interregional and transnational criminal networks led the Commonwealth of Independent States to adopt the Inter-State Programme of Joint Measures to Combat Crime for the Period 2000-2003.

This Programme envisages a range of measures and joint activities aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of cooperation between CIS member States to combat various manifestations of international organized crime.

Pursuant to paragraph 6.1 of chapter VI (Monitoring mechanism) of the Programme, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus elaborated a Plan of action to implement the Inter-State Programme of Joint Measures to Combat Crime for the Period 2000-2003, approved by decision No. 219 of the President of the Republic of Belarus of 7 July 2000.

Among the practical measures envisaged in the above-mentioned Plan, it should be noted that law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Belarus are made responsible for implementing specific interdepartmental operational and preventive measures and special interventions to suppress terrorist acts and other manifestations of extremism, the illicit production of and trafficking in arms, ammunition, explosives and explosive devices, the identification and suppression of activities of international criminal groupings using various means of transport and involved in illicit migration.

On 21 June 2000, the Commonwealth's Council of Heads of State adopted the Decision on the establishment of the CIS Anti-Terrorist Centre by member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States, in whose work Belarus participates. The Decree on the CIS Anti-Terrorist Centre establishes the legal status, main tasks, functions and composition of the Centre and the organizational basis for its work.

The Centre is a permanent specialized subsidiary body of the Commonwealth of Independent States responsible for coordinating joint activities by the relevant agencies of the CIS member States in combating international terrorism and other manifestations of extremism.

With a view to ensuring cooperation in the prevention, identification, suppression and investigation of terrorist acts and other manifestations of extremism in CIS member States, the Programme of CIS Member States to Combat International Terrorism and Other Forms of Extremism up to the Year 2003 was adopted on 21 June 2000.

Designed to further the Inter-State Programme of Joint Measures to Combat Crime for the Period 2000-2003, this Programme seeks to coordinate the efforts of CIS member States in combating terrorism and other manifestations of extremism and to establish an international system of joint measures to combat such crimes.

National organizational chart of counter-terrorism machinery

Pursuant to article 6 of the Act "On Counter-terrorism", the President of the Republic of Belarus and the Council of Ministers are responsible for spearheading counter-terrorism efforts.

The entities directly engaged in counter-terrorism within their area of competence are:

- State security bodies of the Republic of Belarus;
- Internal affairs agencies of the Republic of Belarus;
- The Presidential Security Service;
- The Ministry of Defence;
- The State Committee on Border Troops.

Entities engaged within their area of competence in the prevention, identification and suppression of terrorist activities also include other State bodies on a list drawn up by the Council of Ministers.

An interdepartmental commission convened by the President of the Republic of Belarus is responsible for coordinating the activities of entities engaged in counter-terrorism.

A bill on the establishment of an Interdepartmental Counter-Terrorism Commission is currently being drafted by the Security Council of the Republic of Belarus.